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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Technikum Morskie Nawigacyjne/Summer Training Camp at
Leba/DAR POMORZKA Training Cruise

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1. [redacted] information on Technikum Morskie Nawigacyjne (Merchant Marine School) in
Szczecin dates th [redacted]

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Admission

2. [redacted]

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3. [redacted] how one deals with such problems in People's Poland. [redacted]
letter to the Ministry of Shipping, in which [redacted] wished to work
as a sailor for the 'Poland of workers and peasants' and to develop the friend-
ship between Poland and the USSR, etc. [redacted] instructed to go to
Odynia for an entrance examination.

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4. [redacted] Marine School - Technikum Mechaniczne (ul. Czerwonych

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Kosynierow No 83), where all candidates were quartered. They had their meals on board SS BENIOWSKI, which now serves as a base ship; the food was not too bad. They slept on mattresses laid on the floor. The examination was both oral and written. It comprised mathematics, biology, Polish and 'modern Poland'.

because shortly before the examination, [redacted] read a description of such an event in a newspaper. [redacted] examination, received a good medical certificate, and was in.

School Routine

5. "The school year began 10 Sep 51, in a new two-wing building at Aleja Piastow No 19, Szczecin. The right wing (when facing the school) contains the school Technikum Eksploatacji Megiugi i Portow, which has about 300 pupils, boys and girls.
6. "Technikum Nawigacyjne had 400 pupils divided into five courses. Each course had three or four classes, each composed of 24 pupils.
7. "The day started with the morning call at 6:30 AM. The pupils dressed, made their beds (in large dormitories holding 30) and did exercises. At 7:15 AM they stood in ranks for a roll call, the order of the day and reports on the punishments. They sang the hymn of Communist Youth - 'Forward, Youth of the World' (Naprzod Mlodziezy Swiata). The boys joked that this roll call was a 'Morning Prayer for Stalin' and 'Hymn to Saint Bierut'. Lessons started at 8:30 AM. Each day there were six lessons, 45 minutes each. The program included: Economic geography of Poland and the world, Lessons on the Constitution and modern Poland, History of Poland and of the world, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Polish language, Russian language, English language, and professional training in general knowledge of ships, signalling, ship instruments, navigation (starting in the second course) and other normal subjects.
8. "All new school manuals are written to cultivate a 'critical approach to reality', in particular to the west. The textbook of Polish history, translated from Russian, treated the subject from an angle completely contrary to all that had been accepted hitherto. The pupils raged inwardly but had to learn it all. Knowledge of Russian literature was propagated so strongly that even in the lessons on the Polish language we read books translated from the Russian. The great classical writers of Russia were obligatory (Tolstoi, Pushkin, etc). The 'old' Polish books were banned at school. After every vacation or holiday, a search was made in the dormitories while the students were in classes; when they left the classrooms their desks were searched in turn.
9. "After the lessons, at 2:00 PM, the pupils had lunch. This was followed by one hour of obligatory silence, and then the cultural or educational (ie political) occupations, sports and military training. Supper - scheduled for 6:00 PM - was often delayed. After supper came a 15-minute press report (P-asowka) prepared by fourth course students, then obligatory silence. At 9:45 PM a report on current news ('Iskra'), prepared by class editors, was broadcast by wired radio. Finally there was the evening roll call and bed. This wired radio also broadcast music and songs (mostly Soviet songs translated into Polish), and lectures propagating the USSR.
10. "Every course had its own 'artistic section'. Great attention was given to spreading an appreciation of music. Lecturers and performers came from the Szczecin Philharmonic to talk about music and to give concerts. Sometimes the students attended concerts in the town. There was a school choir (Director [redacted] Jelskiowski). Generally Soviet and Polish music was performed.
11. "There was a lot of sports activity on the school's own ground: basketball, netball, football, competitions for a sports badge (Pos) etc.
12. "The pupils also had extra work without pay outside the school either in the form of Sluzba Polce or of 'voluntary pledges'. A frequent 'voluntary pledge' involved stitching sails. On Sundays they often were taken to the PGRs in the Szczecin area to dig potatoes. Once in the [redacted] no cars were found

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to take them back and they had to walk all the way to Szczecin. On a number of occasions they were taken to the port of Szczecin to load and unload ships and to help in the construction or repair of railway tracks.

13. "On Sundays the pupils could go out to town on their own, with a pass. One of the fourth course pupils stood guard at the gate; he examined the passes and often searched the pockets of those leaving the school. This sentry was armed with an automatic pistol.

Political Activities

14. "Much time was taken by political occupations. The pupils belonged to various organizations: the Sea League, League of the Friends of the Soldier, Polish-Soviet Friendship Society and of course the ZMP. There was also a Party organization at the school. The ZMP organized political talks. Sometimes special lecturers arrived from the Party authorities in Szczecin or even Warsaw. The ZMP controlled the school library, 'purging' it periodically of 'reactionary' literature. The ZMP's task was to raise the moral and ideological standards of the pupils. It waged war on all the 'reactionary vices' of youth, labelled with the new Communist slang ('Bikupiarstwo', 'Bazanciarstwo', 'Bumelanctwo', 'Hrabiostwo'. 'Hrabiostwo' means that a pupil returning to school after a holiday at home, loaded with a baggage, takes a taxi. This was considered sissy.) ZMP also fought against smoking which was forbidden anyway by the school rules. A boy caught smoking had his hair cut in an odd way as punishment. The ZMP training raised denunciation to the level of a virtue, calling it 'the need for socialist vigilance'. Every course elected its ZMP committee. In the first course, however, the election was firmly controlled. Each class also had its own leader who must be approved by the ZMP.

15. "One of the ZMP activists was Zdzislaw Duda (fifth course), secretary of the CP organization in school. Once he found in the possession of one of the cadets a book entitled 'Through Love to Siberia' ('Przez Milose Na Syberie') in which the conditions in Siberia were described in accurately dark colors. This happened in the [redacted]. Soon afterwards 21 cadets were expelled. The school authorities were ruthless in dealing with attempts at opposition or resistance. Expulsions were frequent. They even hit ZMP activists. The ZMP leader, fnu/ Paterek, was expelled in [redacted] and deprived of a sailing permit. This was during the purge among the pupils in [redacted]. At that time at least one third of all the pupils was expelled. [redacted] of the 120 pupils of the fourth course, as many as 40.

16. "Despite the political pressure and threats of expulsion, the school had an atmosphere of discontent which was always on the increase after the pupils had returned from holidays at home. This dissatisfaction found outward expression. One occasion was provided by the obligatory military training conducted under the direction of Capt fnu/ Kropiwnicki, for pupils from the third course upward. The school was in the category of 'militarized establishments', which meant that its pupils were supposed to do their military training during school (in off-duty hours), plus three months' regular training after school; they were not to be drafted in the Army on the same footing as ordinary recruits. This was never satisfactorily explained to the boys. They were not sure whether this school military training would count for their obligatory service. The authorities, instead of giving a convincing explanation, tried to make the boys submit by threats and punishments. There was serious trouble in the third course in [redacted].

17. "Jan Paszczynski (chief of the summer training camp on Leba Lake) was, until [redacted] head of the pupils' boarding quarters (Internat). Then at a 'production meeting' in school he got up and strongly criticized the conditions at school: delayed meals, bad economic arrangements, etc. The boys supported him warmly, while the politruks got angry. Paszczynski was dismissed as an 'enemy of the people', and no more production conferences were arranged. In his place came fnu/ Mazur, lecturer on the history of the Soviet CP.

18. "The head of the school was Capt Konstanty Maciejewicz (Zeglugi Wielkie). Navigation was taught by Kazimierz Korzeniowski, who studied at a navigation

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school in Stalingrad. A cultural officer, Capt. [Fnu] Tatarski, came in [redacted] and soon disappeared. He was replaced by a Party activist, [Fnu] Mikszacki.

19. "There were some foreigners at the school. [redacted] some Czechs - all rather nice boys. Two were called [Fnu] Pibob and Frantisek Hrushka.

Recreation

20. "Young people in state-run boarding schools, eg the Marine School in Szczecin, have their entertainment planned and supervised by the school authorities and the ZMP.
21. "Marine School cadets are forbidden to frequent pubs or restaurants. On their free days they can either go to a cinema or to visit friends in the vicinity. While at school, they can spend their free hours in the local club usually run by the ZMP (Swietlica). There the entertainment must be 'educational'. There is a radio there, operated from a relay station in the school, which usually broadcasts talks or music from Warsaw or Moscow. The talks are disliked but the cadets like to listen to the music. The club offers such games as chess or checkers, and a wide selection of the Polish and Soviet press.
22. "From time to time the ZMP committee at school organizes a dance for the pupils. The guests from the town pay entrance fees, but for the pupils it is free. It is usually the practice to invite to this dance girls from one of the schools in Szczecin, but it is possible also to send an individual invitation to a girl friend. The invitations must be obtained from the ZMP committee, who ask the name of the girl and details about her: Is she working or at school, who are her parents, etc. The ZMP committee may object to a girl not only on grounds of morals but also of 'political unreliability'. Generally, the school authorities make less fuss about the morals of pupils than about their political reliability. Although the State education now aspires to replace the former influence of religion in the upbringing of youth in all spheres, very little is being done to instill in the young people the principles of sexual morality. The only lectures I heard at school on this subject were about the prevention of venereal diseases. The girls come to the dance dressed as well as they can, in their best stockings, etc. They use little cosmetics or perfume; the use of lipstick and of nail polish is firmly discouraged. Only short frocks are worn. They dance to the music of waltzes, tangoes, foxtrots; no such 'modern decadent' dances as the samba, etc are allowed. The buffet offers beer, lemonade and cakes. There is a tendency to organize as many of these dances as possible during Lent, and the attendance of all pupils is then compulsory.
23. "On principle, the authorities prefer to invite the girls' schools to such dances. They discourage individual friendships with girls in town. [redacted] 25X1X
[redacted], the pupils of the 1st and 2nd course were outright forbidden to meet girls on their free afternoons. They were told that they were 'too young for that sort of thing'. The real purpose was to isolate the boys from all outside influences, at least during the first two years of their studies. Most of the young girls whom the pupils meet in town are decent working girls but firm 'reactionaries'; a student of the Marine School might have his ears filled with 'hostile propaganda' while taking a walk with a girl friend.
24. "The same is the case of private visiting. Girls in Poland still arrange small parties on their birthdays to which they invite young friends of both sexes. If a pupil asks permission to leave the school to go to such a party, he again must report the name of the girl, occupation of her parents, etc. The authorities are anxious that he not find himself in 'unsuitable company'.
25. [redacted] 25X1X
[redacted] the prohibition of visiting public places of entertainment is also partly caused by the intention to isolate the pupils, so that no reactionary influence will reach them. At the beginning of their studies, the new pupils are read a list of places which are out of bounds to them; this includes of course some pubs or cafes which are really unsuitable for people, but also a number of respectable places.
26. "The school is taken in groups to cinema shows for propaganda films. Pupils

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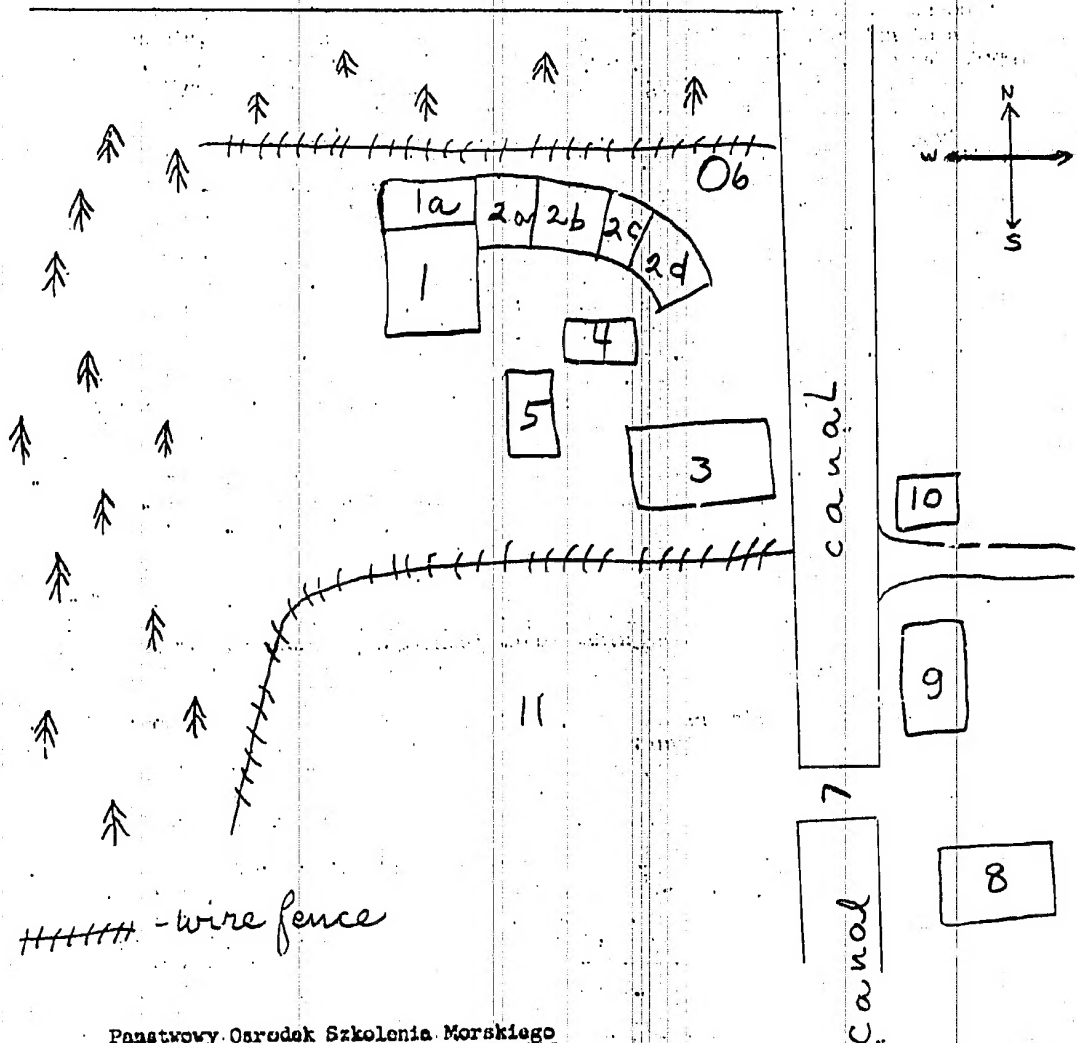
may also go to a cinema on their own, but the films are mostly dull and primitively propagandistic.

27. "This accent on political elements in entertainment and the limitation on free choice of pleasures does not have any moralistic effect, and the young people inwardly revolt.
28. "Young men should cut their hair short and wear it tidy and flat on their heads. Long hair in men is the sign of a 'Bazant'; so are narrow trousers and crepe-soled shoes (the last item also applies to women). The boys in the Marine School were lectured in dress by their ZMP instructors who even encouraged them to pick fights with boys they might meet wearing such 'fancy dress'.

Summer Training Camp

29. "The summer training center for young sailors (Panstwowy Ośrodek Szkolenia Morskiego - former Ośrodek Szkoleniowy Jungow) is situated on the eastern shore of Lake Leba, near the fishing village of Leba. 25X1X
- 25X1X along with all the students who had passed their examinations at the end of the first year at Technikum Morskie Nawigacyjne.

30. "The following sketch shows the approximate layout of the camp:



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- (a) "At the northern side the camp is wired off from the strip of wood which stretches north to the sea coast. This wood is a forbidden zone and strongly watched by WOP patrols. At the west there is an open space to the edge of the wood. The southern side is also protected with a wire fence which divides the camp from a repair yard for fishing boats (No 11). The shipyard repairs local cutters and some sent down from Wladyslawowo. At the east the camp is bordered with a canal which joins Lake Leba with the sea. On the opposite bank of the canal stands the building of the fishing harbor management (No 10), at the point when the canal branches off toward the town of Leba. Further to the south is a small cod-smoking plant (No 9) and a bridge over the canal (No 7). Near the bridge is the railway station of Leba (No 8). The town stretches farther in the eastern direction. It is a small town, engaged mainly in fishing. The population consists of Kashubians and also of Poles transferred there after World War II.
- (b) "In the camp itself, the main building (No 1) serves as living quarters for the camp management and for the cooks. A part of it is separated to form a store for uniforms (1a). In the additional, semi-circular wing of the building there are: the food store and kitchen (2a), first dining room (2b), ZMP clubroom and reading room (2c) and second dining hall (2d). The yard before the building is used for roll calls, parades, meetings, etc. The house itself has no upper floors and is covered with a thatched roof. In front of it stands another small building (4). Building (5) is used to store potatoes and oats. Water pump (6) is located behind the semi-circular wing. The pupils at the camp had to bring sand and turf to cover the yard before the main building.
- (c) "The pupils sleep in a large bathhouse (No 3), in which during the winter the boats are kept. From that building to the edge of the canal, there is a slanting platform with a pair of rails, on which the boats are launched. All necessary equipment, to iron beds, mattresses, bed linen and blankets, is brought by the boys from the Marine School.
31. "The training at the camp consists mainly of rowing and sailing practice, first on the lake, and afterward on the sea. The order of the day was as follows:
- (a) "The boys got up at 6:00 AM and went for a swim in the sea before breakfast. This was the only time they could do so, unless they went to the part of the beach left for town use. Otherwise access to the sea was strongly guarded by the WOP. A special section of the beach was wired off for the pupils. Over their heads WOP sentries stood on rocks, watching lest the boys went beyond the limits.
- (b) "Breakfast consisted of black coffee with sugar, a large lump of good bread, and something usually unattractive: either white cheese, smoked cod, or pork saturated with salt.
- (c) "From 8:00 AM till noon, the boys had rowing and sailing practice. Lunch was served between 12:00 and 1:00 PM: a piece of sausage or meat with potatoes, soup, and sometimes stewed fruit.
- (d) "From 1:00 till 4:00 PM, rowing practice again. Between 4:00 and 9:00 PM, 'cultural occupations'. At 5:00 PM, supper: buttermilk or sour milk with potatoes. Finally at 8:00 PM black coffee (without sugar) and bread. At 9:30 PM the boys went to bed. On Sundays they received cold supper instead of potatoes and milk.
32. "For training purposes the pupils were divided into three watches. Every day one watch stayed in the camp all day doing maintenance jobs: cleaning, painting boats, etc.
33. "There were frequent night alarms. The pupils had to board the boats and learn to tow and sail in the darkness.
34. "The head of the camp in [redacted] was Jan Praszczynski, a decent fellow. [redacted] far

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██████ he was not an officer of any kind, but an engineer skilled in mathematics, electronics and radio. There were three instructors including [fnu] Flusko, a former student of the Marine School and now a lieutenant in the merchant marine and a signals expert; [fnu] Polek; ████████ the name of the third instructor.

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35. "There was no official politruk. All political activities were run by the students themselves. The purpose of the camp was to teach the pupils rowing and sailing. The pressure of political indoctrination was considerably released during their stay at Leba. Of course there was an obligatory reading of newspapers every day, during the hours destined for 'cultural occupations', but meetings were held rarely. Each watch had one meeting a week on the average. The main topics were matters connected with training and results. Each watch had its own committee. The leader ████████ was Tadeusz Masiek (a splendid person). The treasurer was Tanasis Mickas, a Greek and a decent boy. The secretary was Marian Rapicki.

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36. "Cultural and political activities were the responsibility of the ZMP organization in the camp. The head of this organization was [fnu] Mateja, of mountaineer origin. The agitation-propaganda section was headed by [fnu] Hildebranski. In the cultural section was a certain Ireneusz Fedorczyk, generally disliked because of his political eagerness and the suspicion that he was an informer. Previously at school one of the pupils, [fnu] Zielenski, had confessed to Fedorczyk that his brother lived in Sweden. Soon afterward Zielenski was expelled. After a few weeks in the camp, the head of the ZMP organization for the whole Marine School [fnu] Paterek, together with another member of the committee [fnu] Ziolkowski, made a visit to inspect camp conditions. A meeting of all pupils was called. Paterek and Ziolkowski criticized everybody and everything. The ZMP chief in the camp, [fnu] Mateja, was also criticized. Being an ambitious boy he took it much to heart. With another boy, he ran away from the camp a few days later and reached Gdynia. He was expelled from school as punishment.

37. "There was some sports in the camp besides training. The boys organized their own football team which appeared several times in local games.

38. "At that time, the girl students of the pedagogical college from Zabrze, and also girls from some other school, were spending summer vacations in Leba. 'Cultural ties' were established between the camp's ZMP and the girls' sections of the Society for Polish-Soviet Friendship. The girls were invited to the camp for an 'Ognisko' and the boys to the girls' holiday home. On these occasions the entertainment consisted of songs (especially Soviet songs) and recitation of propaganda poems -- no dancing.

39. "At one point that summer the boys elected a delegate to the Congress of Youth Leaders (Zlot Mlodych Przewodnikow) in Warsaw.

40. "The relations between the boys from the camp and the local people were good. Sometimes the boys went to work for a few hours at the cod-smoking plant, to earn a little extra money for cigarettes. This could be arranged if one belonged to the watch which was on duty in the camp, although it needed a little 'organizing'.

41. "The WOP was the local bogey; WOP soldiers watched everybody and everything. They had their barracks somewhere beyond the town; they patrolled the stretch of the shore, especially the wood along it, and had a chain of watch points scattered on the beach. Once four boys from the camp wandered into the forbidden stretch of the wood. They were caught by a WOP patrol and kept for 24 hours. They had an unpleasant time because the WOP wanted them to confess that they intended to steal a boat and escape to Sweden.

42. "The punishments in the camp were not very severe: a reprimand, a 'BW' (Bez Wyjscia) ie 'no town leave, extra tasks'. There was no 'Karcer' (detention cell).

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43. ████████ neighborhood quite a number of Polish marines; a large unit of marines is stationed somewhere on the shores of Lake Serbskie. ████████

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two Soviet sailors from the Baltic Fleet in Leba.

44. "In Leba there are some boarding houses owned by the Workers' Holiday Fund. Also, at that time the team of Polish sportsmen training for the Olympic Games in Helsinki was at Leba.

45. "Work was being done to deepen the Leba Canal.

DAR POMORSKI Training Schooner

46. "DAR POMORSKA, the training vessel of the Marine School, carries a crew of 140, including 110 cadets, mainly from the second and third course, a few from the fourth.

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47. "The master in [redacted] - /fnu/ Jurkiewicz (Kapitan Żeglugl Wielkiej)
 1st Officer - Jerzy Dyrowicz
 Political Education Officer - Michał Koccon
 Officer of 1st Watch - /fnu/ Jonczuk
 Officer of 2nd Watch - /fnu/ Kwiatkowski
 Officer of 3rd Watch - /fnu/ Konieczko
 Director of Training (Kierownik Nauk) - /fnu/ Pikon
 Tutor (Wychowawca) - /fnu/ Czaraki
 Boatswain of 1st Watch - /fnu/ Jakubek
 Boatswain of 2nd Watch - /fnu/ Włodarczyk
 Boatswain of 3rd Watch - Zdzisław Choma
 Mechanics - /fnu/ Mroz
 - /fnu/ Niemiec
 - one other

Also on board were several officers of the lower grade (Żegluga Małej) who had just finished Marine School.

48. "The equipment of the DAR POMORSKA has remained practically unchanged since before World War II. The ship still has auxiliary Diesel motors, modernized since the war. She makes several training trips every year, mostly on the Baltic; once a year she sails to other seas.

49. "Our group boarded the ship [redacted] School authorities had certain difficulties in setting up the crew, since many boys, especially from the third, fourth and fifth courses had been refused the right to sail. On [redacted] only 48 cadets were quartered on the schooner. Later, presumably on the request of higher authorities, a second screening was done at the school. [redacted] a large group of third course cadets was brought by train to Gdynia. Seven cadets from Morskie Technikum Mechaniczne in Gdynia were also taken on board.

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50. "Intense marine-navigation training went on during the voyage to the Mediterranean, although the order of the day was different at sea from in port.

(a) "When the schooner lay in a harbor, the day started at 6:30 AM. The cadets dressed, rolled up their hammocks, cleaned the sleeping quarters. Then followed a review in front of the tutor, PT exercise (climbing ladders), washing.

(b) "At 7:30 AM breakfast: coffee, bread, butter or lard. 8:00 AM - roll call, singing of 'Forward Youth of the World' etc. Then followed various occupations: painting, polishing, general maintenance and training, navigation instruments, furling sails, climbing the masts, equipping the boats with food and radio apparatus. The second course had special instruction in technical marine drawings and in setting sails. Navigation instruction was conducted by Pikon. This professional training was also done in the afternoons.

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(c) "In the morning hours, political propaganda lessons often took place, under Politruk Koccon. [redacted] the following subjects of political

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lectures:

Third anniversary of the Korean War.
 How should the law on the protection of state property be explained?
 Victory of the USSR over Hitlerism. (Here the cadets were told 'ten canons' which had ensured the victory of the USSR. They included the solidarity of the world of labor, the effort of all Soviet nationalities and the liquidation of the fifth column in the USSR.)

Life of Stalin

Nicholas Copernicus - as a scientist who had rebelled against the stiff restrictions imposed upon science by the Church.

The 'imperialist camp' - and the consequences which an escapee to the West must expect.

All the time, whether at sea or in port, all cadets had to attend lectures on political economics, on the state and class problem.

- (d) "Noon - lunch: soup, meat and potatoes; two hours rest and then more professional training.
 - (e) "5:00 PM - supper: potatoes or macaroni, bacon or meat. After supper, cultural occupations: Soviet films (eg 'Zolnierz Zwyciestwa'), singing of Russian songs in Polish translation. At 8:00 PM - a second, light supper of bread, sausage or lard or bad cheese, sometimes jam, and tea. The cultural occupations were organized by the ZMP which had a separate section for each watch, or by the Primary Party Organization on board. (The secretary was the ship's storekeeper.)
 - (f) "At 9:00 PM - evening roll call, instructions for the next day, 'Forward Youth of the World'. At 9:30 PM - bed. Before the boys went to sleep, they heard regularly the news on the radio (the 'Glos Marynarza' edition from Gdynia). They usually also heard radio news during breakfast. Apart from that, they were completely cut off while on board from all reports from the outside world. They heard nothing about such events as the Berlin riots or Jazwinski's escape.
51. "The service was done in three watches, each on duty for 24 hours. On Saturday and on Sunday, two watches could go ashore. Before they left Poland, the boys had been instructed to get all sorts of propaganda leaflets and books for their journey.
 52. "While the ship was at sea, the watches on duty were changed every four hours. When on duty, the watch did all the maintenance work on the ship, taking care of the masts, helm and stern. The second watch had ideological training. The third watch received instruction on instruments and navigation. The cadets of older courses had lectures and practical exercises in navigation. They also were attached to the officers on duty for instruction.
 53. "The younger courses were instructed in the use of navigation instruments:
 Compasses - there are three on the schooner, the main one on the bridge, the second in the steering cabin, the third above the kitchen.
 Gyro-compasses - one by the main compass on the bridge, the other in the steering cabin, the third in the navigation cabin.
 Mechanical sounding rods on a line and an acoustic echo instrument.
 Mechanical speedometer and a pressure meter (inventor - the Soviet Ten Tchenikiyev) - in the navigation cabins.
 The cadets of the third and fourth course operated the sextants.
 54. "Also during the trip there were exercises in navigation, in the identification of coasts, in the use of life-saving equipment. This consisted of four row boats for 30 persons each and two motor boats for 36 each.
 55. "The Marine School also gives navigation training on two yachts, each around 30 meters long: 'Janek Krasicki' and the former German 'Zew Morza'. Both these yachts make regular trips between Szczecin, Ustka, Kolobrzeg, Darlowo and Gdynia."

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